

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Town of Hanson Historical
Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

74-0-4-2

Hanover

HNS.191

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 288 County Road

Historic Name: Charles and Hannah Wiley
House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1874

Source: 1856 Walling Map of the Town of
Hanson

Style/Form: Altered/No Style

Architect/Builder: Benjamin Josselyn

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite, Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle, Vinyl

Clapboard/Vinyl

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Large two-car garage to west of house and small
wood sided garden shed to southwest of house

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Relocated to
this location, addition and new entrance on west
façade, vinyl siding and windows

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:**

Late 1980s

Acreage: .69 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main
thoroughfares (Route 14) in a sparsely settled
area of predominantly single-family homes on
large lots which includes grass lawns surrounded
by numerous mature trees, bushes, and other
vegetation.

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-half story, gable roofed original building was moved to this area in the 1980s. According to Town Historian Allan Clemons, the house was originally a classic Greek Revival style building and was significantly altered after its relocation. The house has retained its original asphalt-shingled gable roof and has a short, narrow corbeled brick chimney at the center of the roof ridge. A narrow one-and-a-half story addition has been installed on its west façade and the main entrance relocated to that space. Both the original house and the later addition have vinyl clapboard siding. While the house was most likely simply detailed in its original form, any surviving detailing is now covered over in vinyl cladding, including the narrow projecting eaves of the gable roof. The original double hung windows have been replaced by one-over-one vinyl replacement windows as well.

The house faces north towards the road. As noted above, the entrance has been relocated to the west façade addition and the original gable façade has an unusually asymmetrical design. Three windows, one on the left half of the façade and two on the right, are unevenly distributed across the façade. Each window has a vinyl shutter installed to either side of the window frame. The dense forest area to the east of the house and a privacy fence around the rear yard significantly limits the visibility of the east façade from the public way.

The addition to the west façade is approximately one-third of the width of the house. Its roof is a reverse saltbox with an apparently shorter and lower pitched south, rear facing, roof slope and a longer and steeper north slope. The addition is set back slightly from the northwest corner of the house and the addition's roof is several inches shorter than the roof of the original house, creating a narrow band of trim that separates both the building facades and roof lines. The addition has a wide shed roofed dormer that extends from the roof peak to the outer edge of the north roof slope. The dormer is vinyl sided with a pair of short double hung windows facing the street. Below, the entrance is located in the left corner of the addition. A long pressure treated wood ramp extends from the wood landing in front of the door to the semi-circular driveway. A staircase on the west side of the landing also leads to the driveway. The door frame is unadorned but the storm door is Victorian in style with decorative designs and panels. A later replacement door is only barely visible behind the storm door. The north façade of the addition also has a wide vinyl clad cornice board and an octagonal window to the right of the door. The west façade of the addition is solid vinyl clapboard with the exception of a small double hung window in the south corner of the façade.

A large one-and-a-half story, two-car garage is located to the west of the house, sitting only a few feet from the west façade. The garage is also vinyl sided. The enormous gable-end roof has an additional band of vinyl clad trim around its outer edge, which extends out slightly to either side of the façade at its lower edge. An arched hayloft style door is located at the center of the gable end over two paneled replacement garage doors. A pedestrian door is located in the east wall of the garage and two narrow rectangular windows can be found high on the west façade.

The property has an open grass lawn that appears to be cut out of the surrounding woods. Tall, mature trees and dense vegetation run along both the east, west, and south property lines. A wide asphalt-paved semi-

Continuation sheet 3

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circular driveway is located in front of the house, with mature trees along the street between the two entrances. The west side of the driveway provides access to the garage and extends to a parking area along the west property line. Visible behind the parking area is a wood board sided prefabricated garden shed. To the east of the house, a solid board style composite material fence encloses the side and rear areas of the site.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

White's History of Hanson lists this house as having been built by Benjamin W. Josselyn in 1874 in the location of the existing public library. Benjamin Josselyn (1826-1908) was a local housewright responsible for the construction of numerous buildings in Hanson in the mid and late nineteenth century including Primary School #1 (now 1077 E. Washington Street) and 408 State Street. Born in Pembroke and listed as a carpenter living in Hanson by the 1850 U.S. Census, by the 1855 Massachusetts Census Benjamin had married wife Lucy and as of the 1870 U.S. Census was working as a housewright in Hanson with Lucy and their four children, all of whom were under the age of 11. According to White's timeline, Josselyn presumably built the house for Charles and Hannah Wiley, who had purchased the property from Margaret Sampson in 1872, at which time the deed for the property lists the site as being thirty-one acres in size and already containing a dwelling house and two barns. This suggests that a house was already on the land when the Wileys purchased it in 1872, and in fact the owner prior to Margaret Sampson, Asaph Peterson, is shown on the 1856 Walling Map as living here with a shoe shop at the corner of what is now School Street and Maquan Street. Both the house, a barn and the shoe shop are listed on the deed selling the property to Margaret Sampson, suggesting that the house may have been built much earlier than White had thought, or that a second house was built on the property to replace, or in addition to, the original house on the site. With the exception of the outbuildings added to this reference in the early 1900s, the property continued to be described as a large property with one house and two barns in every deed for the property through 1922.

As there is little original fabric now visible on the exterior of the building it is difficult to judge which date might be correct. Without evidence to the contrary, White's 1932 conclusion that Josselyn built the house in 1874, perhaps replacing the house already on the property, is assumed to be correct. However, further research is strongly recommended to identify the source of the 1874 date identified by White, what happened to any earlier buildings, and why construction is assigned to Josselyn.

Asaph Peterson (1808-1873) was married three times and moved to Hanson in 1845 after his marriage to second wife Cynthia Sherwin in Abington.¹ There are no buildings on the property in the 1830 Smith Plan, suggesting that Asaph had them built after he moved to the site. Asaph is listed as a shoemaker in the 1850 U.S. Census and a Tacker in the 1860 one. He would later move to East Bridgewater after selling his property to Margaret Sampson in 1865. Margaret's husband, George T. Sampson, was a farm laborer and the shoe shop was presumably removed or repurposed during their ownership of the site, perhaps into one of the two barns later referenced in the deeds. The shop may have been a draw for Charles and Hannah Wiley, however, as Charles was a shoecutter from Lynnfield. The Wileys did not live in Hanson for long, though. After purchasing the property in 1872, the couple sold it in 1877 to Reuben Whitford and moved to Danvers. Reuben and his wife, Sarah Unk Whitford, is listed as a painter and farmer in the 1880 U.S. Census. He lived here for nearly twenty years before selling the property to Bradford Littlefield in 1897.² Bradford had married Minnie Littlefield in 1893

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds Book 215 285

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 746, Page 172

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and was working as a shoecutter during the 1900 U.S. Census, although he would go on to run a boarding house and work as a caterer. The Littlefields lived here for only a few years before selling the property to Lot Philips in 1903. Philips sold the property to a group of property owners in 1904, who sold it again in 1905 to William Smith, who finally sold it to William and Martha Hayes in 1907.³ William Hayes had arrived in the U.S. from Canada in 1868 and is listed as a farmer living here with his wife and daughter Christina in the 1910 and 1920 U.S. Census and as retired in the 1930 Census. In 1932, Alph Merton Burrell and Lillian M. Burrell purchased the property from the estate of William H. Hayes.⁴

The Burrells appear to be the last family to live in the house. Alph worked as a shoemaker, an express agent and owned a variety store in the years leading up to their move to Maquan Street. Lillian Burrell died in 1940 and Alph appears to have retired by that time, perhaps moving in with other family members in the area. By the early 1960s, Roger and Mary Milliken had inherited the estate of Alph Merton Burrell. In 1964, the Town of Hanson drew up a plan for the site entitled "Plan of Land in Hanson" that included a large parcel of Town owned land on Shaw Street and a strip of land on Maquan Street owned by Roger and Mary Milliken.⁵ In 1966, the Town purchased the land from the Millikens. It is not clear what, if anything, was done with the buildings on the site over the next twenty years. During the 1980s, the Hanson Public Library and Council for Elder Affairs joined together to construct a dual use building that would ultimately be located on the land purchased from the Millikens. A house lot was purchased on County Road for the surviving dwelling house, which was relocated there in the late 1980s. In 1990, the current 288 County Road was sold by Charles Hanson to George Bertulaitis.⁶ The property went into foreclosure in 1994 and was sold to its current owner, James M. Young, that same year.⁷

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³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 920, Page 444

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1625, Page 226

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Plan 13, Page 477

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 9877, Page 35

⁷ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 13098, Page 231

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